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Subject: Yucca Mountain Project

Part of Records Package / Supplement / Correction

Matthew Eyre 638 Howellville Road Berwyn, PA 19312

October 12, 2001

Ms. Carol Hanlon S&ER Products Manager U. S. Department of Energy Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office P.O. Box 30307 M/S 025 North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0707

Dear Ms. Hanlon:

I am writing you to ask that the Department of Energy recommend to President George Bush that the Yucca Mountain Nevada site be designated as the national repository for spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste.

The Department, national labs and the balance of the nuclear industry have spent many years developing a strong technical and licensing basis for siting a national disposal facility and the Department has identified a suitable location. The Department has a clear and unambiguous obligation to begin acceptance of spent nuclear fuel and high level radioactive waste from the 70 sites where nuclear licensees store these materials safely. However, long term storage and eventual disposal at the nation's repository is a much more sensible location than at these 70 commercial facilities.

The commercial nuclear energy industry has been handling, storing and transporting spent nuclear fuel for many years and the casks and canisters used have been designed and fabricated to withstand quite a range of hypothetical accidents. These containers have been put through exhaustive testing and have an outstanding record of safety and performance. I challenge other transport and storage package systems to approach this level of performance.

The National Academy of Sciences recently affirmed that the geologic disposal is the only scientifically and technically credible solution to the high-level radioactive waste disposal issue. We can benchmark this decision with that of other nations that have affirmed the need for spent nuclear fuel and high level radioactive waste disposal who have active geological storage/disposal programs.

For these reasons, I urge the Department to recommend the Yucca Mountain site to the President.

Sincerely,

Matthew Eyre

